

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 03256 100910Z

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 SSO-00 /017 W

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO USDOC WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 995

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

UNCLAS TEHRAN 3256

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, LE, SA, IR

SUBJ: TRAVEL OF JAMES HODGE - STATE OF MONTANA TRADE MISSION

REF: USDOC 5467

1. WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED REFTEL ANNOUNCING THE ARRIVAL IN TEHRAN ON APRIL 19 (APPROXIMATELY) OF MR JAMES HODGE WHO IS THE CHIEF OF WHAT IS EVIDENTLY A TRADE MISSION FROM THE STATE OF MONTANA. AS THE DEPARTMENTS OF STATE AND COMMERCE ARE AWARE, THE CIRCUITS OUT HERE ARE COMPLETELY OVERLOADED WITH TRADE MISSIONS, OFFICIAL VISITORS, AND GROUPS OF ONE KIND OR ANOTHER VISITING IRAN PRIOR TO THE APRIL 23 MEETING IN WASHINGTON OF THE US-IRAN JOINT COMMISSION. AT THE SAME TIME, THROUGHOUT THIS MONTH AND BEYOND, BOTH THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS IN IRAN WILL BE OVERBURDENED WITH VISITORS OF ONE KIND OR ANOTHER. WE DO NOT SEE HOW MR HODGE'S GROUP CAN EXPECT TO HAVE ANYTHING REMOTELY RESEMBLING A PRODUCTIVE VISIT IN IRAN IF IT INTENDS COMING IN THE MONTH OF APRIL. ALSO, MR HODGE'S GROUP WILL BE IN TEHRAN ABOUT THE SAME TIME AS MATIM II AND THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI MISSION. THE LIKELIHOOD OF MR HODGE'S GROUP BEING ABLE TO GET ACCESS TO RESPONSIBLE LEVELS OF THE GOI AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR SEEM EXCEEDINGLY REMOTE.

2. WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED A CALL FROM PAN AMERICAN INFORMING US THAT PANAM IS ADVISING MR HODGE THAT THE AIRLINE WILL BE UNABLE TO SECURE HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS IN TEHRAN FOR THE GROUP. FYI FOR ALL PRACTICAL PURPOSES, THERE ARE NO REPEAT NO HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

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PAGE 02 TEHRAN 03256 100910Z

POSSIBLE IN TEHRAN FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS MONTH AT LEAST AND

POSSIBLY WELL INTO MAY. WE URGE THAT COMMERCE TAKE UP THIS MATTER WITH MR HODGE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE INFORMING HOM OF CONDITIONS IN IRAN AS OUTLINED ABOVE.

3. WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE RECEIVING A REPLY TO OUR QUERY ON THE STATUS OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS TRADE MISSION.

4. PLEASE ADVISE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.  
HELMS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Reference:** 75 USDOC 5467  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 30 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <30 JUN 2003 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <21 JAN 2004 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** BEXP, LE, SA, IR  
**To:** COM  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006